Confirmation No.

Applicant:

Norbert Abels et al.

Serial No.

Not yet known
Not yet known

Att'y Docket No. 7678.599.1 Group: Not yet known

Sheet 1 of 6

Filing Date:

February 6, 2004

For:

SELF-LIGATING ORTHODONTIC BRACKETS INCLUDING A METAL LIGATION COVER HINGEDLY CONNECTED TO A

BRACKET BASE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATIONS MADE BY APPLICANT

U.S. Patent Documents

| Examiner <u>Initial*</u> | Document Number | Issue <u>Date</u> | <u>Name</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 12/1 | 5,857,849 | 01/12/99 | Kurz |
| 2 | 4,712,999 | 12/15/87 | Rosenberg |
| 3 | 5,474,445 | 12/12/95 | Voudouris |
| 4 | 5,562,444 | 10/08/96 | Heiser et al. |
| 5 | 5,711,666 | 01/27/98 | Hanson |
| 6 | 6,169,429 | 01/02/01 | Brown |
| 7 | 5,269,681 | 12/14/93 | Degnan |
| 8 | 4,355,975 | 10/26/82 | Fujita |
| 9 | 2,011,575 | 08/20/35 | Ford |
| 10 | 3,128,552 | 04/14/64 | Broussard |
| 11 | 3,748,740 | 07/31/73 | Wildman |
| 12 | 3,854,207 | 12/17/74 | Wildman |
| 92/13 | 4,077,126 | 03/07/78 | Pletcher |

Examiner: John Wilson Date Considered: 10/11/04

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Norbert Abels et al.

Applicant: Serial No.

Filing Date:

Not yet known Confirmation No.

Not yet known

For:

February 6, 2004

SELF-LIGATING ORTHODONTIC BRACKETS INCLUDING A METAL LIGATION COVER HINGEDLY CONNECTED TO A

BRACKET BASE

| 92/14 | 4,103,423 | 08/01/78 | Kessel |
|-------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| 15 | 4,144,642 | 03/20/79. | Wallshein |
| 16 | 4,171,568 | 10/23/79 | Főrster |
| 17 | 4,180,912 | 01/01/80 | Kesling |
| 18 | 4,279,593 | 07/21/81 | Röhlcke |
| 19 | 4,371,337 | 02/01/83 | Pletcher |
| 20 | 4,419,078 | 12/06/83 | Pletcher |
| 21 | 4,492,573 | 01/08/85 | Hanson |
| 22 | 4,527,975 | 07/09/85 | Ghafari et al. |
| 23 | 4,559,012 | 12/17/85 | Pletcher |
| 24 | 4,559,013 | 12/17/85 | Amstutz et al. |
| 25 | 4,597,739 | 07/01/86 | Rosenberg |
| 26 | 4,614,497 | 09/30/86 | Kurz |
| 27 | 4,634,662 | 01/06/87 | Rosenberg |
| 28 | 4,655,708 | 04/07/87 | Fujita |
| 29 | 4,687,441 | . 08/18/87 | Klepacki |
| 30 | 4,698,017 | 10/06/87 | Hanson |
| Ju31 | 4,712,999 | 12/15/87 | Rosenberg |
| | | | |

Examiner: John Welson Date Considered:

10/11/04

Sheet 2 of 6

Att'y Docket No. 7678.599.1

Group: Not yet known

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Confirmation No.

Sheet 3 of 6

Applicant:

Serial No.

Norbert Abels et al.

Not yet known Not yet known Att'y Docket No. 7678.599.1 Group: Not yet known

Filing Date:

February 6, 2004

For:

SELF-LIGATING ORTHODONTIC BRACKETS INCLUDING A METAL LIGATION COVER HINGEDLY CONNECTED TO A

BRACKET BASE

| JW 32 | 4,786,252 | 11/22/88 | Fujita |
|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------------|
| 33 | 4,846,681 | 07/11/89 | Mourany et al. |
| 34 | 4,850,865 | 07/25/89 | Napolitano |
| 35 | 4,913,654 | 04/03/90 | Morgan et al. |
| 36 | 5,037,296 | 08/06/91 | Karwoski |
| 37 | 5,062,794 | 11/05/91 | Miura |
| 38 | 5,078,596 | 01/07/92 | Carberry et al. |
| 39 | 5,094,614 | 03/10/92 | Wildman |
| 40 | 5,125,832 | 06/30/92 | Kesling |
| 41 | 5,160,260 | 11/03/92 | Chang |
| 42 | 5,161,969 | 11/10/92 | Pospisil et al. |
| 43 | 5,174,754 | 12/29/92 | Meritt |
| 44 | 5,224,858 | 07/06/93 | Hanson |
| 45 | 5,275,557 | 01/04/94 | Damon |
| 46 | 5,322,435 | 06/21/94 | Pletcher |
| 47 | 5,344,315 | 09/06/94 | Hanson |
| 48 | 5,380,197 | 01/10/95 | Hanson |
| 92/49 | 5,456,599 | 10/10/95 | Hanson |
| Examiner: | 10 : 10 | Date Co | onsidered: |

Examiner: John Wilson Date Considered: 10/11/04

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Norbert Abels et al.

Applicant: Serial No.

Not yet known Not yet known

Att'y Docket No. 7678.599.1

Confirmation No.

February 6, 2004

Group: Not yet known

Sheet 4 of 6

Filing Date: For:

SELF-LIGATING ORTHODONTIC BRACKETS INCLUDING A METAL LIGATION COVER HINGEDLY CONNECTED TO A

BRACKET BASE

| gn/50 | 5,470,228 | 11/28/95 | Franseen et al. |
|---------|-----------|----------|------------------|
| 51 | 5,474,445 | 12/12/95 | Voudouris |
| 52 | 5,474,446 | 12/12/95 | Wildman et al. |
| 53 | 5,556,276 | 09/17/96 | Roman et al. |
| 54 | 5,562,444 | 10/08/96 | Heiser et al. |
| 55 | 5,586,882 | 12/24/96 | Hanson |
| 56 | 5,630,715 | 05/20/97 | Voudouris |
| 57 | 5,630,716 | 05/20/97 | Hanson |
| 58 | 5,685,711 | 11/11/97 | Hanson |
| 59 | 5,711,666 | 01/27/98 | Hanson |
| 60 | 5,738,513 | 04/14/98 | Hermann |
| 61 | 5,857,849 | 01/12/99 | Kurz |
| 62 | 5,863,199 | 01/26/99 | Wildman |
| 63 | 5,885,074 | 03/23/99 | Hanson |
| 64 | 5,906,486 | 05/25/99 | Hanson |
| 65 | 5,964,589 | 10/12/99 | Musich |
| 66 | 6,017,118 | 01/25/00 | Gasvoda et al. |
| JW 67 | 6,071,119 | 06/06/00 | Christoff et al. |
| <u></u> | | | |

Examiner: John Welson

Date Considered:

10/11/04

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 5 of 6

Applicant:

Norbert Abels et al.

Serial No.

Not yet known Not yet known Att'y Docket No. 7678.599.1 Group: Not yet known

Confirmation No.

February 6, 2004

Filing Date:

For:

SELF-LIGATING ORTHODONTIC BRACKETS INCLUDING A METAL LIGATION COVER HINGEDLY CONNECTED TO A

BRACKET BASE

| Jav 68 | 6,042,373 | 03/28/00 | Hermann | |
|--------|-----------|----------|-------------------|--|
| 69 | 6,042,374 | 03/28/00 | Farzin-Nia et al. | |
| 70 | 3,218,71 | 11/23/65 | Wallshein | |
| 71 | 3,724,074 | 04/03/73 | Wallshein | |
| 72 | 4,859,179 | 08/22/89 | Kesling | |
| 9w 73 | 5,429,499 | 07/04/95 | Sernetz | |
| • | | | | |

Foreign Patent Documents

| Examiner <u>Initial</u> * | Document Number | Publication <u>Date</u> | Country or Patent Office |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Jul4 | DE 1 184 451 | 12/31/64 | Germany |
| 75 | DE 296 08 349 U1 | 07/11/96 | Germany |
| 76 | DT 23 57 573 | 05/22/75 | Germany |
| 77 | G 91 12 872.2 | 03/19/92 | Germany |
| 78 | WO 94/00072 | . 06/01/94 | PCT |
| 79 | WO 00/33760 | 06/15/00 | PCT |
| 80 | EP 0 714 639 A2 | 05/06/96 | EP |
| 81 | EP 0 714 639 A3 | 05/03/96 | EPO |
| 92/82 | WO 00/76419 | 12/21/00 | PCT |

Date Considered: Examiner: 10/11/04

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Confirmation No.

Sheet 6 of 6

Applicant:

Norbert Abels et al.

Serial No.

Not yet known Not yet known Att'y Docket No. 7678.599.1 Group: Not yet known

Filing Date:

February 6, 2004

For:

SELF-LIGATING ORTHODONTIC BRACKETS INCLUDING A METAL LIGATION COVER HINGEDLY CONNECTED TO A

BRACKET BASE

Other Documents

(including author, title, pertinent pages, etc.)

Examiner Initial*

JW 83

Konstruieren mit unststoffen, Gunter, Erhard, Carl Hanser Verlag München Wien, pp. 314-329, 1999

References Cited by Applicants

While the filing of Information Disclosure Statements is voluntary, the procedure is governed by the guidelines of Section 609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. To be considered a proper Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 shall be accompanied by a copy of each listed patent or publication or other item of information and a translation of the pertinent portions of foreign documents (if an existing translation is readily available to the applicant), an explanation of relevance of each reference not in the English language, and should be submitted in a timely manner as set out in MPEP Sec. 609.

Examiners will consider all citations submitted in conformance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and MPEP Sec. 609 and place their initials adjacent the citations in the spaces provided on this form. Examiners will also initial citations not in conformance with the guidelines which may have been considered. A reference may be considered by the Examiner for any reason whether or not the citation is in full conformance with the guidelines. A line will be drawn through a citation if it is not in conformance with the guidelines AND has not been considered. A copy of the submitted form, as reviewed by the Examiner, will be returned to the applicant with the next communication. The original of the form will be entered into the application file.

Each citation initialed by the Examiner will be printed on the issued patent in the same manner as references cited by the Examiner on Form PTO-892.

The reference designations "A1," "A2," etc. (referring to Applicant's reference 1, Applicant's reference 2, etc.) will be used by the Examiner in the same manner as Examiner's reference designations "A," "B," "C," etc. on Office Action Form PTO-1142.

W:\7678\599.1\MLA0000001245\V001.doc

| Examiner: John Wilson Date Considered: 10/11/04 | Examiner: | John | Wilson | Date Considered: | 10/11/04 |
|---|-----------|------|--------|------------------|----------|
|---|-----------|------|--------|------------------|----------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.